

REMARKS

By Office Action mailed December 21, 2005, the Examiner has entered a two-way restriction requirement; namely, Group I – claims 1-30, drawn to a composition comprising a soft tissue filler and a peptide copper complex; and Group II – claims 31-34, drawn to a method for treating skin defects.

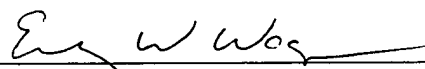
As an initial matter, Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the teleconference with Applicant's representative on January 31, 2006. During such teleconference, the Examiner clarified that the requirement to elect a single disclosed species is merely an election of species pursuant to 37 CFR 1.146, rather than a further restriction. In addition, the Examiner noted that the term "Teflon" in the claims may be problematic during prosecution.

Accordingly, in response to the Office Action, Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, the Group I claims (*i.e.*, claims 1-30) for examination at this time. In view of this election, claims 31-34 have been withdrawn. In addition, for purpose of initial examination only, Applicant hereby elects the species wherein the soft tissue filler is hyaluronic acid and the peptide copper complex is glycyl-histidyl-lysine:copper(II). In addition, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended claim 5 to remove the term "Teflon".

Application No. 10/607,575
Response to Restriction Requirement

In view of the above amendments and remarks, consideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested. A good faith effort has been made to place this application in condition for allowance. However, should any further issue require attention prior to allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (206) 622-4900 to resolve the same. Furthermore, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
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